

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 03661 051543Z

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ACTION EA-14

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1191

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 3661

EA/TB FOR DEXTER FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SGEN, TH

SUBJ: REQUEST OF HIS MAJESTY FOR TESTS OF GENERAL ABILITY

1. JUST BEFORE A LUNCHEON AT MY RESIDENCE IN HONOR OF DEPSEC RUSH I WAS INFORMED THAT THE PERSONAL PRIVATE SECRETARY OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING, MOM LUANG THAWISAN LADIWAN, HAD AN URGENT REQUEST TO PRESENT TO ME. I MET WITH HIM THIS AFTERNOON. DURING HIS CONVERSATION HE INFORMED ME THAT HIS MAJESTY WOULD LIKE TO OBTAIN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TESTS OF GENERAL ABILITY FOR GRADES 6 - 12. THESE TESTS SHOULD INCLUDE MANUALS FOR GIVING THE TESTS ALONG WITH APPROPRIATE ANSWER SHEETS. SPECIFICALLY HE ASKED FOR SETS DEVELOPED BY JOHN C. FLANAGAN ENTITLED "TESTS OF GENERAL ABILITY, FORM 1, GRADES 9 TO 12. DIRECTIONS FOR THIS TEST ARE GIVEN IN THE EXAMINER MANUAL, SRA REORDER NO. 7-3644. SCIENCE RESEARCH ASSOCIATES, INC., 259 EAST ERIE STREET, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611. A SUBSIDIARY OF IBM. COPYRIGHT 1957, JOHN C. FLANAGAN. REORDER NO. 7-3641." I TOLD THAWISAN I WOULD OBTAIN THESE TESTS AND WOULD ALSO TRY TO FIND OTHER TESTS OF GENERAL ABILITY OR INTELLIGENCE FOR THE SAME GRADE PERIOD WITH APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS, SCORING CRITERIA AND ANSWERS.

2. ONE CAN ONLY SPECULATE WHY THE KING WISHES THESE TESTS, ALTHOUGH THAWISAN TOLD ME IT WAS BECAUSE OF HIS INTEREST IN THE GENERAL STUDENT PROBLEM IN THAILAND. HE ALSO ADVISED
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PAGE 02 BANGKO 03661 051543Z

ME THAT THE KING WOULD BE DEPARTING ON 30 MARCH FOR KLAIKANG-

WON PALANCE AT HUA HIN AND WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THIS MATERIAL
TO STUDY WHILE HE WAS AWAY FROM BANGKOK. AS YOU KNOW,
THE EFFICACY OF GENERAL ABILITY TESTS HAS BEEN QUESTIONED,
PARTICULARLY BECAUSE OF ETHNIC-CULTURAL DIFFERENCES AMONG
THE SUBJECTS TESTED. THERE MAY BE A PROBLEM OF ADMINISTER-
ING THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTS TO THAIS WHO ARE NOT PRO-
FICIENT IN ENGLISH. I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF THIS GENERAL
PROBLEM COULD BE DISCUSSED WITH EXPERTS IN HEW AND
APPROPRIATE CAUTIONARY MATERIAL SENT ALONG WITH THE TESTS
THEMSELVES. REQUEST THAT EVERY EFFORT BE MADE TO
RESPOND TO THIS SPECIAL REQUEST AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
PLEASE ADVISE IF THERE ARE ANY PROBLEMS.
KINTNER

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